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Cover Page of Happy Childhood

Another Word Concerning Christian Literature for Oriental Women

NUMBER TWO

Concerning Christian Literature

THERE is much to encourage those who have been interested in the work of the Committee on Christian Literature for Oriental Women and Children. The magazine, *Happy Childhood*, published in Shanghai and edited by Mrs. Donald MacGillivray has joyously entered upon its second year. It has at present a paid subscription of nearly 2,500, with a growing demand from all classes. Ten subscriptions recently came from Chinese in Burmah. It is published monthly and has a Finding Out Club, modeled after that department in *Everyland*. Children from all parts of China are among the competitors. Prizes were sent a few months ago to Foochow, Shantung, Manchuria and Kiangsi. General Cheng of the Chinese army recently subscribed for eleven copies, ten of which he sends to an orphanage in Peking. He says, "This paper is truly a light for the children of China." Mrs. MacGillivray writes, "We have had much commendation and few criticisms. There is a mission to rickshaw coolies in Shanghai and the founder and director, a business man, has taken forty copies per month and says they have never had anything which has helped them so much."

A Chinese Picture Book

ENCOURAGED by the success of the magazine, the enterprising editor brought out at Christmas time *A Chinese Picture Book*, using some of the same cuts, and selling without difficulty the modest edition of 600. This is probably the first picture book to be published in Chinese having a distinctly Christian teaching.

At Northfield last summer Miss Laura M. White made an effective appeal for this great cause at the Summer School of Women's Foreign Missionary Societies and as a result the committee have forwarded to her in Shanghai about \$400 to aid her in her growing work of translation and publication. Among the books recently brought out by Miss White are *Ben Hur*, *A Tale of the Christ*; a translation of *The Iron Cross*, which has already appeared as a serial in *The Woman's Messenger*; a song book for use in day schools and various helpful pamphlets and books treating of home-making and mothercraft. Miss White is assisted by a corps of Chinese girls, who are being trained to enter upon this new profession for a Chinese woman—the preparation of uplifting, helpful, home-creating literature for her own people. A committee of women has recently been formed in China to gather all the published material of this class and catalogue it. This committee is composed of Mrs. Chauncey Goodrich of Tientsin, Mrs. MacGillivray, Mrs. Parker, the editor of a magazine for English-speaking women in China, and Miss White. An emporium for women's reading of which Mrs. MacGillivray is in charge has recently been opened in the rooms of the Christian Literature Society in Shanghai.

A Girl's Gift

AT Northfield last summer a young girl heard Miss White's appeal and on her return home sent to Mrs. Peabody a check for fifteen dollars, part of her vacation money, saying that she wanted to help other

children to have some of what had made her own child life so happy—beautiful books. This gift became the nucleus of a grant of \$50 from this Committee to Mrs. Motte Martin, a Southern Presbyterian missionary, working in the Belgian Congo, and eager to give the children of that district some pure stories of child life. Mrs. Martin writes, in acknowledging the gift, "I cannot tell you how grateful I am to the Committee for thus making one of my cherished dreams come true." Copies of her letter and of a report just received from Miss White have been sent to the Woman's Boards.

Plans are now in the making for the widening of the committee's efforts, possibly extending to India and Japan. An appeal for the very modest budget of \$1500 for 1916 has met with encouraging response, and, including a generous grant of \$500 from the Central Committee on the United study of Foreign Missions, about \$1200 is in sight. This does not include the special Northfield contribution for Miss White's work.

Magazines for Missionaries

ANOTHER department of the work of this Committee consists in sending books and magazines to missionaries. Miss Lila V. North, Bradford Academy, Bradford, Mass., is in charge of this branch of activity and will be glad on application to furnish names and addresses of workers on the foreign field to whom specified books and magazines may be directly mailed by the donors. Missionaries who see this leaflet are requested to send to Miss North lists of publications which would be helpful to them.

An Appeal for Aid

IN conclusion may we urge individuals, as well as woman's clubs and missionary organizations to remember the needs of this committee, which represents the Woman's Boards of Foreign Missions of the United States and Canada. Checks should be made payable to *Miss L. V. North, Treasurer*, Bradford Academy, Bradford, Mass.

The recently published report of Dr. J. H. Ritson of London, Chairman of the Christian Literature Committee of the Edinburgh Conference, contains significant data on this subject and reveals how astonishingly meagre have been the gifts of the Mission Boards for this vitally necessary cause.* The American Section of this Christian Literature Committee of which Dr. C. H. Patton, Home Secretary of the American Board, is chairman, is formulating plans by which this whole matter may be systematically and emphatically brought to the attention of the Foreign Missions' Boards of America.

Meantime the Woman's Committee, after the manner of their sex, which never "despises the day of small things" earnestly requests that all interdenominational gatherings will give place on their programs for the presentation of this subject and that all Christian women will not fail to support by prayer and gift this young but growing child of the Woman's Boards of Foreign Missions.

* This report may be obtained of Harry Wade Hicks, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, at 25 cents a copy.



INTERDENOMINATIONAL COMMITTEE ON
CHRISTIAN LITERATURE FOR
ORIENTAL WOMEN

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This leaflet may be secured for free distribution from The Central Committee on the United Study of Foreign Missions, West Medford, Mass., or from the headquarters of the Woman's Boards.